

[illegible]

A method for creating anonymity in collecting patient data. The method comprises receiving a medical report for a patient including patient identification data. A patient record is searched for an anonymous patient identifier (APID) corresponding to the patient. The search returns the APID in response to locating it and returns a null value in response to not locating an APID. If the search returns a null value, an APID corresponding to the patient is created. The APID is added to the medical report and the patient identification data is removed from the medical report. The medical report is transmitted to a data repository in response to removing the patient identification data.

Figures